

Claims

Sub B1
1) A beneficial microorganism propagation-promoting material which promotes propagation of a beneficial microorganism, said material being obtained by inoculating koji mold on grains to effect koji preparation, adding water to a resultant from said koji preparation to thereby hydrolyze proteins and/or saccharides contained in said resultant, and removing a predetermined amount of phytic acid contained in said grains.

2) A beneficial microorganism propagation-promoting material comprising a mixture of:
a product for promoting a propagation of beneficial microorganisms obtained by inoculating koji mold on grains to effect koji preparation, adding water to a resultant from said koji preparation to thereby hydrolyze proteins and/or saccharides contained in said resultant, and removing a predetermined amount of phytic acid contained in said grains; and
resistant starch.

Sub B2
3) A beneficial microorganism propagation-promoting material according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein propagation of a beneficial microorganism contained in said resultant from said koji preparation and/or a beneficial microorganism added to said resultant from said koji preparation is promoted during said hydrolysis.

Sub B3
4) A beneficial microorganism propagation-promoting material according to Claim 1, 2 or 3, ^{1 or 2} wherein said beneficial microorganism is at least one selected from *Eumycetes*, lactic acid bacteria and bifidobacteria.

Sub B3
5) A process for preparing a beneficial microorganism propagation-promoting material which promotes propagation of a beneficial microorganism, said process comprising: inoculating koji mold on grains to effect koji preparation, adding water to a resultant from said koji preparation to thereby hydrolyze proteins and/or saccharides contained in said resultant, and removing a predetermined amount of phytic acid contained in said grains.

Sub B3
6) A process for preparing a beneficial microorganism propagation-promoting material according to Claim 5, wherein propagation of a beneficial microorganism contained in said resultant from said koji preparation and/or a beneficial microorganism added to said resultant from said koji preparation is promoted during said hydrolysis process.

Sub E3

7) A process for preparing a beneficial microorganism propagation-promoting material according to Claim 5 or 6, wherein said beneficial microorganism is at least one selected from *Eumycetes*, lactic acid bacteria and bifidobacteria.

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Add E3